BRIDGES

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015

A STARPHOENIX COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

SEEING IT THROUGH

WITH BLINDNESS LOOMING, DAVE BURDENIUK IS TAKING THE TIME TO APPRECIATE EVERY LAST SIGHT
P. 5

FREE

IN THE CITY

JANUARY 14, 2015 - 1:14 P.M.

A walk in the park

Terry Fast enjoys the warm weather by taking a walk with her boxer Romi, foster dog Lex and her pug Pugsly at the off-leash dog park on the south end of Broadway Ave. The recent milder weather has given people the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. BRIDGES PHOTO BY MICHELLE BERG

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Dave Burdeniuk, media relations director at SaskEnergy, has overcame the devastating effects of slowly going blind due to retinitis pigmentosa throughout his career. BRIDGES PHOTO BY TROY FLEECE

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Colter Wall is a 19-year-old guitar-picking country, folk and blues singer-songwriter who draws his musical style from Dillon, Jennings, Cash and Nelson. He also happens to be Premier Brad Wall's son. SUBMITTED PHOTO

BRIDGES COVER PHOTO BY TROY FLEECE

Bridges is published by The StarPhoenix – a division of Postmedia Network Inc. – at 204 Fifth Avenue North, Saskatoon, Sask., S7K 2P1.
Heather Persson is editor. Jenn Sharp is associate editor.
For advertising inquiries contact 657-6340, editorial 657-6327, home delivery 657-6320. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

MUSIC

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SINGER-SONGWRITER

Wall's sound channels legends of old

By Ashley Martin

He's a talented young picker with maybe three dozen songs under his belt. There's a rumour going 'round that he sold his soul to the devil, he never used to play guitar so well.

But that's an old story. Here's a new one.

Different dude, a marvel in his own right, rouses a sold-out crowd in Regina. He plucks a flat top, kicks a bass drum and belts out in baritone The White Stripes' Hotel Yorba. Jack White he is not, clad in denim, plaid and a cowboy hat.

Colter Wall hasn't sold his soul. His ode to Robert Johnson's Faustian fable could lead you to believe he has. plucking a gorgeous minor melody, voice resonant in singing a story.

Reverend, reverend please come quick
Because I've got something to admit
I met a man out in the sticks in good ol' Miss
He drove a Series 10 Cadillac and wore a cigar on his lip.

"I still remember my first songs being just terrible... just awful," says Wall, who started songwriting a year-and-a-half ago.

He's come a long way since then, and longer still from his musical origins (piano lessons as a child, a penchant for hair-metal solos when he started on guitar in Grade 8, and an R&B cover band during high school in Swift Current).

"In my foolish youth I guess I was more concerned with being showy," says Wall, 19.

That changed in Grade 11, when he heard Bob Dylan for the first time. The song, Don't Think Twice, It's Alright.

"I remember being absolutely blown away at his writing," says Wall. "The effect that his words had on me was pretty substantial, and from that point on I kind of decided I wanted to write songs."

That was during his initial foray into folk, roots and Delta blues, styles he's increasingly drawn to for their authenticity.

"I think it's the most raw music has ever been and will ever be. It's not hiding behind anything; everything is just there and really exposed."

And that's appealing to a lot of people, judging by the current roots revival.

"We now have musical genres that are basically pumped entirely out of computers and machines rather than out of people, so I think I may be wrong in saying this but — (people are) sort of reverting to the exact opposite, which is the most stripped down music there is in folk music and in bluegrass and blues music. It's just some people singing harmonies, sometimes just one guy with a guitar and harmonica. It doesn't get any more stripped down and raw than that."

That's who Wall is — one guy with a guitar (or a banjo, which he recently started practising).

After his high school bandmates moved on to university, he was "really miserable" not playing music.

So he started playing alone and continues to do so, even though he has fun collaborating.

Solo, he harks back to outlaw country. Townes Van Zandt is a writing influence, Johnny Cash is a vocal one.

"It's hard to say you share anything with Johnny Cash, because he's Johnny Cash — but we share some baritone levels that we kind of sing the same on."

Wall can thank his dad, Premier Brad Wall, for the introduction to those legends.

"He was constantly playing Waylon (Jennings) and Johnny and all those guys as a kid, and Willie (Nelson)," said Wall. "The exposure to that stuff at such an early age, that's a pretty important role in guiding me down the musical path that I am now, listening to older stuff."

Wall's mother, Tami, is a classically trained pianist, she provided his earliest practical experience at music, which he'd like to do professionally.

He's in his second year at the University of Saskatchewan, working on his backup plan lest a music career doesn't pan out. He's in general courses now, and plans to pursue an education degree.

Catch him live on Jan. 31 at Saskatoon's Le Relais with In With the Old, and Feb. 6 at Regina's Artful Dodger with Scott Richmond. An EP, which he's recording with Jason Plumb in Regina, should be out this summer.

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Colter Wall grew up listening to his dad's favourite singers, like Waylon Jennings. SUBMITTED PHOTO

ON THE COVER

I'll use humour to try to disarm people's discomfort. — *Dave Burdeniuk*

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Blindness hasn't stopped Burdeniuk

By Ashley Martin

Dave Burdeniuk, who started his career in radio, has retinitis pigmentosa, a disease that slowly causes the light sensing cones and rods inside the retinas to deteriorate
BRIDGES PHOTO BY TROY FLEECE

Pasqua North, Coronation Park and Victoria East were some of the first words Dave Burdeniuk learned to read.

They were the names of the regular bus routes he'd take with his mother, Susan. He was three years old, and it was his job to help her get on the right bus.

She had retinitis pigmentosa, like her dad David Peters before her. It's genetic. When Burdeniuk was four, he would stumble while entering a dark room, and they suspected he had it too.

When Burdeniuk was 13, a doctor confirmed the suspicion and told him he could be completely blind by 16.

"I could see my future because I could see my mother and my grandfather and I knew what my life was going to be," said Burdeniuk. "(I've) had a lot of time to get ready for it. It's not like this was sudden."

The disease works over time, as the light sensing cones and rods inside the retinas deteriorate, vision worsens.

"It's almost like it can come and go. You're fine in bright sunlight, you're not fine in a dark lobby. Are you faking it? It's more hidden because people don't realize there's something wrong with you," said Burdeniuk. "Now it's much more obvious."

Today at 50, Burdeniuk maintains some sight. He can decipher light and colour; his peripheral vision is all right. People resemble blobs of varied hues and heights. Sometimes he can see a thick, bold typeface on a page, but gave up reading books a decade ago, which was hard.

He estimates his vision has deteriorated by one-third in the past year.

"Things will fade to black probably fairly quickly."

As the director of media relations for SaskEnergy, Burdeniuk is often in the public eye, communicating information to news reporters.

He can rattle off technical jargon and numbers as though he were reading from a script. But he's not. He memorizes everything.

"People think because you don't have really thick black glasses on and you don't have a dog with you, that maybe there's nothing wrong with you," said Burdeniuk.

When he started using a white cane three years ago, an obvious indication of his disability, he says it came as a surprise to a lot of people.

He came up with ways to adapt, said Randa Burdeniuk, Dave's wife. "Many people for a good part of Dave's life didn't really know that he had difficulty seeing. If it wasn't affecting what he needed to do to help (reporters) get the information they needed, then it may not have come up.

"It's not the focus of his entire life, but it is something we've had to deal with all his life so as things have changed, then we've had to become more open about some of those changes."

According to CNIB, 836,000 Canadians have significant vision loss. The employment rate for working age, visually impaired people is only 25 per cent.

▪ ▪ ▪ ▪

Like a lot of communications workers, Dave Burdeniuk got his start in journalism.

After stints at the University of Regina in computer science, then in English and political science, he dropped out. His heart wasn't in it.

Then the Prairie Broadcast Training Institute opened downtown, giving him the opportunity to pursue a longtime passion — radio. As a 13-year old, he'd practise his "adult" voice and call into local stations. He once built a crystal radio from a kit. At age six, he and his sister Darlene would create radio shows enacting characters from Sesame Street.

"I walked into PBTI and the first day it was like, 'This is what I want to do for my career' and it just lit a fire for me and I just couldn't wait to start in the media."

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> I could see my future because I could see my mother and my grandfather and I knew what my life was going to be. (I've) had a lot of time to get ready for it. It's not like this was sudden. — *Burdeniuk*

He wanted it to be his life's career. "It probably wasn't the smartest career choice, knowing that you have to read news scripts, but it was my love. I wanted to do radio, I was always fascinated by it."

Third time's a charm, as they say, and that was the case during Burdeniuk's career, working at three different stations.

He graduated from PBTI on Dec. 29, 1985, and began his eight years in radio four days later in Prince George, B.C., his wage a cut below his managerial job at McDonald's.

He knew people could be cruel — his mom was the brunt of hostility by strangers and family alike — but it was a shock to hear from the news director in Prince George, "'Had I known you couldn't drive at night, I never would have hired you.'"

Burdeniuk returned to Saskatchewan after five months to work in Saskatoon.

He didn't want his disability to be an issue. He'd scout out news conference locations in advance, to help minimize the likelihood of danger or embarrassment — trip in a stairwell, hit a potted plant, pancake into a glass partition mistaking it for open airspace. (He does the same today in unfamiliar settings, like when he's asked to guest speak in U of R public relations or business classes.)

But after three and a half years at that station, his general manager took him aside.

"We're worried that your vision will deteriorate and you could be a drain on our medical insurance plan and we want you to leave," Burdeniuk recalled. "It rips your heart out, and you go home and you cry and you go 'this is so unfair.' I wanted to make the media my career — my life. I was passionate about radio."

He didn't make waves, he didn't want to make things more difficult for himself.

But as luck would have it, shortly thereafter he had an offer to join CKCK in Regina, the station he'd grown up listening to. In 1990, at 25, he became the youngest news director in its history.

In 1994, with roughly 80,000 newscasts under his belt, a volatile market encouraged him to switch paths and he got a job as press secretary for Premier Roy Romanow.

And so began an exciting new journey, working on "the dark side," as journalists so fondly call it.

In this new role, he was the one answering — not asking — the tough questions.

"If you make a mistake, it's on the front page of the paper or on the six o'clock news. It lets me tap into the media and still be part of things," said Burdeniuk.

Being at the centre of microphones and camera lights during his inaugural scrum was as thrilling as his first monumental performance as a 12-year-old, reading the Christmas story in his church pageant.

He spent two and a half years working in the Legislature inconspicuously navigating its many staircases and dark hallways. He once followed an MLA's perfume trail when he couldn't see the way to the cabinet room door.

His disability wasn't apparent to his colleagues until he needed their help, like in a travel situation.

"I put it on my resume that I was visually challenged and they didn't even pay attention," said Burdeniuk. He was amazed to find people who didn't care.

After six years as executive director of communications for Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation, he joined SaskEnergy in 2002.

"He is a real leader for us on the communications," said Doug Kelln, SaskEnergy president/CEO, "and he does an exceptional job of managing, taking on that (vision) challenge and not letting it get in the way from his commitment to providing the best job he can on a daily basis for SaskEnergy. I just think the most of him. Our job is to enable — that that challenge can be managed all the time."

"He loves taking a complicated issue and working with engineers, working with field people, working with the president. It fuels him because he loves a challenge and he finds a way to do it no matter what the challenge is," said Randa.

As his vision has deteriorated, Burdeniuk's job execution has changed.

Where he used to go on site in emergencies, now he does most of his work from his office.

"You won't see me in Nomex," said Burdeniuk, though he still has emergency gear in a hockey bag in his office.

"When you can't see what you're doing, you probably shouldn't be out there in an emergency situation."

Besides, it's easier to do the job from his computer and land line, which are set up to accommodate his disability than from his iPhone.

As a straight A student all through school, Burdeniuk would always wait to study until the night before an exam. His ability to memorize is serving him well in his work today as he can't read manuals or take notes on information he's meant to glean and circulate.

Dave Burdeniuk uses enlarged text on his computer at his SaskEnergy office. BRIDGES PHOTO BY TROY FLEECE

It's almost like it can come and go. You're fine in bright sunlight, you're not fine in a dark lobby. Are you faking it? It's more hidden because people don't realize there's something wrong with you. — *Burdeniuk*

"There's huge gaps where there's just nothing," said Burdeniuk, who guesses he has maybe a year of vision left. "If it would just stop I could get used to it, but it keeps changing. Suddenly I can't see my office land line phone."

In high-stress situations — like when a natural gas storehouse fire burns for a week at a cost of $10 million (Prud'homme in October) or when a house explodes (Regina Beach in December) — Burdeniuk works 20-hour days until the situation settles.

They're challenging times, during which "the optic nerves and the brain just shut down at the end of the day and say, 'I've had it. I can't handle any more,' and it's almost like you're in a fog."

For all the difficulties surrounding his job — especially in those times he has to work from home in his 24/7 on-call role — "Randa is my eyes."

▪ ▪ ▪ ▪

Randa Burdeniuk calls it fate. Dave was working at the Albert and Dewdney McDonald's, she'd applied to work at the Albert North shop because it was closer to home. But in a rare move, they transferred her application.

"We would work early Saturday mornings together," said Randa. "He was tall, dark and handsome. He was brilliant and had a great sense of humour."

"(We) met and fell in love under the golden arches," said Dave.

From the time they were 17, they felt they were meant to be. "I knew that he was my soulmate," said Randa. "I knew from the moment that we started dating that I would have this wonderful life with him and that we would be going on this journey together."

Their first date was Dave's Grade 12 graduation from Scott Collegiate, they've been married 26 years.

Dave's disability was a consideration from the beginning. He's always been night blind. He'd pick her up in his half-ton to go out; she'd drop him off after dark and take the truck home.

But at the same time, "It was never a factor.

"I never questioned it because I loved him at that moment. I love him more now than I did then, and I knew that whatever he would have to face, we would face together," said Randa, herself a former journalist.

"She never has looked at this as a burden on our family or on our relationship. She just says we can do anything together, we can overcome anything together, we can take on any challenge together," said Dave.

Randa drives him to work and picks him up every day. When he does regular hits with local TV morning shows, she's right there with him — "mini dates," they call them. She helps him scout out those aforementioned unfamiliar locations.

Continued on Page 8

Dave Burdeniuk with his family — wife Randa, daughter Trelle and her husband Graham Kolojay, and daughter Cassia — at Trelle and Graham's wedding in summer 2014. SUBMITTED PHOTO

> I never go to bed without looking into Randa's eyes (and) looking at her face, because there will be a time when I won't be able to see her face. I never want to forget that. — *Dave Burdeniuk*

At home, as he's on call 24/7 for work, she helps him read the text on his laptop, which is so much smaller than his office monitor.

"I don't want to give the impression that it's always easy because it isn't," said Randa. "My heart aches when there's something that he used to be able to do that he isn't able to do."

From the time they were toddlers, their two daughters Trelle (now 24) and Cassia (18) were taught there were certain things their dad couldn't see and do.

As he did with his own mother, Burdeniuk would take the girls on the hus-.

"We would have great adventures," said Dave, "teaching them how to lead you, how to guide you, and they always took it very, very seriously."

The family would sometimes accompany him on work trips out of town; they'd visit Dave's office.

Sometimes they'd even do the work — his daughters would hand out news releases to media on occasion.

Now Trelle is on the other end of that, as a reporter for Saskatoon's NewsTalk CKOM radio.

"She's the only reporter who's ever told me she's loved me in an interview," Burdeniuk joked.

■ ■ ■ ■

The man has a good sense of humour. In part, it's ingrained.

Working in radio, even the straight man as a news announcer, he'd write jokes for the DJs who were allowed to have more fun on air.

By the time Weird Al Yankovic came along, Burdeniuk had been writing jokey song lyrics for years.

But wisecracking is also a coping mechanism. His grandfather David told a lot of jokes. Burdeniuk guesses for the same reason he does — to be more at ease with his vision loss.

Even though cataracts nearly led to complete blindness 10 years ago, he makes light of the surgery that corrected the problem. "I always joke that I went off to a private clinic and came back with implants."

He lightheartedly approaches day-to-day hurdles — in the office. "If I'm talking to potted plant, it's probably because I think it's a spiky-haired summer student and I'm having a great conversation." Dealing with media. "There was a spruce tree right beside (the reporter) ... and they were both about the same height, so I was pretty sure I was looking in the right direction."

Realistically, coping is hard and he tries to be strong as he clings to his last bits of sight.

"There's so many down moments and it doesn't take a lot sometimes to cry," said Burdeniuk. "I'll use humour to try to disarm people's discomfort."

For those moments of awkwardness or downright ignorance, he tries to understand and stay cool — like when two TV reporters recently asked whether his white cane was a gas detector, and one confessed blindness had always fascinated him.

"I'm thinking, 'Well it sure hasn't fascinated me,'" said Burdeniuk.

He's dealt with many stereotypes.

Burdeniuk doesn't golf, let alone golf well, even though there are blind people who do.

He doesn't read braille.

People assume his other senses are heightened. Not exactly, though he relies on them more than he once did. He has a "spidey sense" that alerts him to obstacles that might endanger him.

"I can't hear a butterfly pass gas a mile away or anything like that," he said, but "sound is everything."

He used to rely on his sense of smell, but a scent-free workplace makes that device redundant.

Dave and Randa Burdeniuk have been together since they were 17 years old and have been married for 26 years. SUBMITTED PHOTO

> My heart aches when there's something that he used to be able to do that he isn't able to do.
> — *Randa Burdeniuk*

Dave Burdeniuk, media relations director for SaskEnergy, was on hand to answer questions as PostTransGas, a subsidiary of SaskEnergy, was conducting a controlled burn to get rid of the gas in a 16-inch high pressure transmission pipeline. BRIDGES PHOTO BY BRYAN SCHLOSSER

Burdeniuk is not a Paralympian, the idea that every blind person is, is as absurd as the stereotypes surrounding Burdeniuk's profession. "Hollywood has these great conspiracy theories about Wag the Dog and all these other things as to what a PR or communications person can do, which are really far from reality."

Burdeniuk knows communications. Point a camera in his face and hurt questions at him, and he's peachy.

His concerns surrounding work are things most people probably wouldn't consider.

"Can I safely get to the bathroom without tripping over a delivery cart? Can I not embarrass myself by smashing into a guest? My biggest fear is getting from the car to my office or from my office to the lunchroom or from the kitchen area to the bathroom. Those are my challenges.

"I never trip over the same fire hydrant twice, but they really hurt. Initially because I wasn't using a white cane, people would think you were sick or drunk or something."

As cautious as he tries to be, he also ventures out of his comfort zone.

"Those things aren't easy," said Randa, "but we just hold each other's hand and we go 'let's do this.'"

Last summer, the couple went zip-lining in Cypress Hills.

Forty feet above the trees, Dave was the first of the group to hang upside down from the zip line.

"That's what I love about him, is there's always this sense of adventure, this sense of fun," said Randa.

"You have to keep pushing yourself, otherwise it can take you over and everything becomes unsafe and everything becomes scary," said Burdeniuk.

He does his best to keep blindness from overtaking him.

"If I view it as a ticking time bomb, then I can almost feel the disease and I don't want to feel my retinas dying."

He aims to live in the moment and cherish the little things.

When he and Randa are in the car, it's a given that she pulls over for a sunset, because it could be his last one.

"I work really hard to memorize things that people would take for granted," — the colours of a sunset, grass blowing in the wind, frost on a fence.

"I never go to bed without looking into Randa's eyes (and) looking at her face, because there will be a time when I won't be able to see her face. I never want to forget that."

In July, Burdeniuk walked his daughter Trelle down the aisle. He's not sure he'll be able to see to do the same for Cassia one day.

He hopes to one day have grandchildren. "I may not be able to see them, but I'll cross that bridge when I come to it.

"I just try and live but I'm hoping I live a long time. And I'm hoping I have a strong memory as I get very old because I'm going to need that so that somebody can describe to me what the world around me looks like. I guess I'm scared but I'm determined."

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SHARP EATS

See a food trend you think deserves a highlight in Bridges?
Email bridges@thestarphoenix.com
or visit Bridges on Facebook

SASKATCHEWAN FOOD SCENE

Building a better local food network

By Jenn Sharp

What if a farmers' market came to you?

That's the concept behind Local and Fresh, a new website that connects Saskatchewan producers with consumers.

Tim Shultz and Andrew Rathwell have created a convenient way to get local food into kitchens, and are helping to build a strong local food network in the province.

Local and Fresh began operating in December in Regina and provides an online grocery store with more than 400 Saskatchewan-made or grown products.

The quality and freshness of locally produced food is superior to what's found in the grocery store as it hasn't spent days in shipping and storage. The price is sometimes higher, but since the food is fresher, there's less spoilage and waste.

As Local and Fresh grows, so too will the local food supply chain and that will help drive down the price, says Rathwell.

"The cost of industrial food continues to go up and at the same time the quality goes down. Our bet is that when we build this right, the quality stays the same but the price goes down for local food.

"You pay for what you get. Quality is a factor."

Shultz understands the challenges of reaching the local market from the producer side (he operates the Green Ranch, a community supported agriculture business near Regina). He knew the producer isn't always the best one to be marketing his own product.

"You're so tied into production. It's hard to do both. A lot of farmers, the reason why they're farming is because they want to be in the background doing the production but not the marketing."

He saw an opportunity to work for producers and help them reach the Saskatchewan market.

"We risk in some ways losing it if we don't support it now. It's hard for local producers to be able to conveniently find enough market for them to grow (their business). And that keeps them small (and) makes it difficult for consumers to be able to get the local food that they want. We've created this vicious cycle that we hope to reverse with Local and Fresh."

Shultz uses his connections with producers to build the product line for Local and Fresh (there's up to 40 represented on the site).

Rathwell says it's hard to go back to mass produced food after you've tried something grown close to home. "The quality of the food in the industrial food system has got so bad."

Transparency between the consumer and producer is another key component to Local and Fresh.

"In our house (we call it) 'Tim's carrots.' You've got a connection to the person who is producing the food that has been so lost in the grocery store," says Rathwell.

"Our job at Local and Fresh is to really promote that story," adds Shultz.

The two agree it's a natural move to expand to Saskatoon. They'd love to build a provincial local food network, especially given the high number of producers in the Saskatoon area. But for now they need to get it operating smoothly in Regina.

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HOW IT WORKS:

- Go to localandfresh.ca
- Register as a customer and provide credit card info
- Pick a delivery route: each neighbourhood in Regina has a series of routes available to it (there's up to five different routes over several days of the week)
- Shop the store for 400+ products
- Option to purchase an item one time or to set up a recurring purchase
- Delivery is $8 or $5 for orders over $200
- Pick up ($5 charge) location is at Clancy's Meat in Harbour Landing; more locations will be added in the future
- You must order six days prior (the goal is to reduce the cut-off date to two days once inventory demands and supply chain strengths are established)
- Offered just in Regina, plan is to expand to Saskatoon

OTHER LOCAL FOOD WEBSITES

- www.onlylocalfood.com
- www.localfoodmarketplace.com/farmerstable
- www.saskfoodfind.com

Local and Fresh owners Tim Shultz, from left, and Andrew Rathwell with operations manager Trevor Doroshenko. Local and Fresh began operating in December in Regina and provides an online grocery store with more than 400 Saskatchewan-made or grown products. QC PHOTO BY TROY FLEECE

ASK ELLIE

Confidence an attractive quality for smart women

Ask Ellie

Q. My friends say I'm too smart for most men and that's why I have difficulty finding a relationship.

They seem to think it's a compliment, or some kind of joke, but I find it upsetting.

I'm 31, have a terrific job in the banking industry, am very successful at it, and have maintained a few close friends.

Otherwise, it's the gym, long and hard work hours, including socializing with business clients for the bank.

I'm attractive and fit, and men seem to find me interesting at first. But they don't come back after a few dates.

I hate to think my friends are right — that men are "intimidated" by smart women.

Lonely IQ

A. Your friends are wrong. Some men are put off by women who are purposefully "intimidating" (usually to mask insecurity).

But smart, confident men like, admire and are turned on by smart, confident women.

That's why it's important to use your friends' comments only to examine your own feelings about yourself when it comes to men you meet and date.

Of course, be proud of what you've accomplished and grateful for the opportunities you had in your education and along your career path.

Still, remember that success is built on relationships throughout life, not just through brainpower.

So be sure to work on how you handle relationships in your private life, too.

Show genuine interest in others, admire their different areas of knowledge, and share your own when it's relevant, not to impress.

Q. I recently received a call from our distraught niece, 17. She'd been staying in a neighbouring city with her sister, 30, who encouraged her to smoke pot and provided opportunities for our niece and her boyfriend to have sex (first time for both).

Our niece was contemplating moving in with this young man, as her small hometown offered no opportunities for work or further education.

When this became apparent, her parents blamed our niece, and each other for allowing her to go to her sister.

Nothing was said to the older sister who appears to have Borderline Personality Disorder traits (I'm a social worker). Once a troubled teen, she's now a wife and mother of two.

The parents fear their grandchildren would be withheld if she gets angry.

We still feel she should be accountable.

Her father feels he let his girl down by allowing her there despite knowing the older sister's antics. His wife says she's waiting for the right moment to speak up.

Our niece is a pleasure to have here, and there's no further sex/drug involvement. We keep her busy upgrading for college.

How can the parents call out their eldest daughter on her role in all of this?

Confronting Responsibility

A. Your social work career gives you access to enough information about suspected BPD to realize these parents are the most irresponsible here.

They should never have put their teenage daughter (who already had a boyfriend) in her sister's care.

She has enough to try to handle raising two children. And hopefully this episode will make her parents and her husband aware that she needs a definite diagnosis, and ongoing behaviour therapy treatment for whatever causes her so called "antics."

You're doing what a good aunt does, by taking the teenager into your home and focusing on her education needs.

You can also influence her parents regarding their older daughter's needs, which are more urgent regarding her children than chastising her for encouraging bad choices for her sister.

Q. I'm 13. For one month I've constantly felt a burning in my chest, rising from my stomach and causes intense pressure on my chest. After lying down I feel like vomiting.

I've also had an upper respiratory infection lasting three weeks — second one in two months.

It kept getting worse and one night I woke up and couldn't breathe for three seconds. I was gasping for air. It's better, but not the burning.

Should I be worried? What can I do to stop it? Sorry if you don't answer stuff like this.

Very Uncomfortable

A. I can't diagnose illness but I can read between the lines that you're uncomfortable asking your parents to take you to a doctor. OR there's something else stressing you that you don't want to reveal. For medical attention, go to a hospital clinic.

BUT, if you're fearful from something that's happened, call Kids Help Phone (1-800-668-6868) immediately. Your information's confidential and you'll be helped.

READ MY BOOK

LOCAL AUTHORS: Writers tell us what makes their book worth reading

JANICE L. DICK

The 'why' of historical fiction

I've always loved history, especially Russian Mennonite stories that relate to my ancestry.

As a kid, I listened to my parents, aunts and uncles reminisce about their childhoods in southern Russia. In school, I devoured Russian classics by Tolstoy, Dostoevsky and Pasternak. It took a long time for these elements to come together, but in my middle age I decided to write a novel incorporating these interests for the sake of story but also as a means of preserving the past.

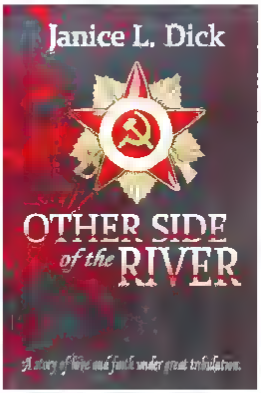
Although I had many scenes in my head, there was much to learn. I collected more books on the subject(s) and also used the Internet extensively. Progress was slow: write research, write, research, reorganize, etc., but I enjoyed it immensely. The story eventually took on a much broader perspective than I'd first planned, and I ended up with three published novels I call the Storm Trilogy.

After a foray into contemporary fiction, I felt the need to return to the historical fiction genre. I'd heard of a Mennonite saga from western Siberia/China that intrigued me. The story begged to be written, if only for my family and the readers I had garnered through the Storm books. And so began another fictionalized account of the Russian Mennonite experience: new characters, unfamiliar places, and a plot filled with disaster and hope.

You see, for some of us, story is everything. My mind may not retain cold, hard facts, but it will remember a story, the characters that inhabited it and the places it took me to. Fiction is a way to reveal and relate history through the lives of realistic characters. It takes a ton of research and hard work, but the reward is in the telling.

Other Side of the River tells of a group of people who flee western Siberia to escape the ever-tightening bands of Stalin's Soviet Union, as far as the borders of China along the Amur River. Faced by obstacles political, personal and spiritual, Luise Letkemann and Daniel Martens struggle to fulfil their dream of life together in a place of peace. Perhaps that place can only be found on the other side of the river.

Janice L. Dick



The print version of Other Side of the River is available at amzn.to/1uQSIyc for $16.63 and the complete e-book is found at amzn.to/1v7m1Lp for $7.59. Or visit janice janicedick.com

GARDENING

PREPARING FOR SPRING

Seed catalogues to get you through winter

By Jackie Bantle

Don't let a few unseasonably warm days in January fool you into thinking the worst is behind us. I'm waiting for the ground hogs to weigh in on Feb. 2 before I place any bets on when to expect spring.

All kidding aside, we Prairie folk know that an 'early' spring really means that we still have at least three months before we can even think about planting our seeds or transplants outdoors. Of course, this realization doesn't mean that we have to mope around snivelling and whining waiting for the warmer weather. I prefer to take this opportunity to read, ponder, plan and dream of the upcoming gardening season by spending hours pouring through seed catalogues.

There's an abundance of seed and gardening catalogues available to the Prairie gardener. Some cultivars listed in the catalogues are not suited to the Prairies though. Remember to search for perennial plants recommended for zone 2b (USDA zone 3) or annuals and vegetables that are recommended for short growing seasons.

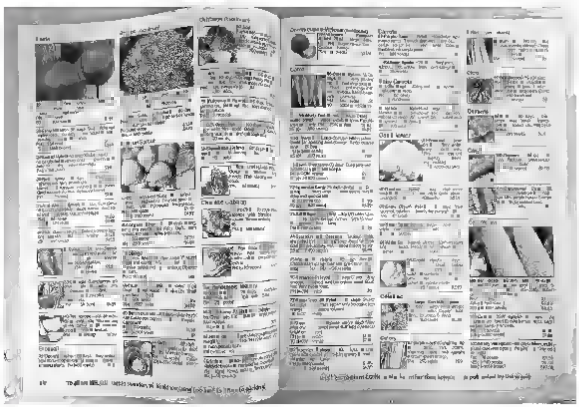
A couple of things to keep in mind. First, while you can still request a real catalogue and place your order with a paper form and put it in the mail, most seed companies can do everything online. The other thing is that some companies reward early orders with a modest discount.

A common question is "What kind of seed can I legally import into Canada without having to deal with confusing terms like 'import certificate' and 'phytosanitary certificate?'" A general guideline is that small lots of flower, tree and vegetable seeds can be imported from the United States and most European countries. However, border inspectors or the Canadian Food Inspection Agency have the right to withhold any seed shipment if the seed quality is questionable. If you are unsure if you can import a type of seed or plant into Canada, look at Canadian Food Inspection Agency's website (www.inspections.gc.ca) for more information.

Bantle is a horticulturist living in Saskatoon.

This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (www.saskperennial.ca, hortscene@yahoo.com). Check out our bulletin board or calendar for upcoming garden information sessions. Jan. 26 — Developing the Gardens at Terra del Sol.

A selection of seed catalogues to get you excited about spring.



Following is a list of my favourite catalogues, along with a brief description of what they specialize in, city, province and web address. With a pile of seed catalogues near your couch or on the 'favorites' list of your computer, you might soon agree with me that winter is just not long enough.

Alberta Nursery & Seed (vegetables, flowers, trees, shrubs), Bowden, Alberta, www.gardenersweb.ca

Angelgrove Tree Seeds (flowering trees, Japanese trees, shade and native trees, bonsai trees and shrub roses), Riverhead, Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, www.AngelgroveSeeds.com

Eagle Creek Potatoes (large selection of unique seed potatoes), Bowden, Alberta, www.seedpotatoes.ca

*****LOCAL*** Early's Farm & Garden** (vegetables, flowers, grass seed), Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, www.earlysgarden.com

Florabunde Seeds (dedicated to old species of flowers), 1973 Villiers Line, RR1, Indian River, Ontario, K0L 2B0, Ph. 705-295-6440, www.florabundaseeds.com

Garden's North (rare and unique perennial and woody seed, annual seed), Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, www.gardensnorth.com (Online catalogue only)

Johnny's Selected Seeds (Vegetables — my favorite source for tomato seed and flowers), Winslow, Maine, www.Johnnyseeds.com

Lindenberg Seeds Ltd. (vegetables, flowers), Brandon, Manitoba, www.lindenbergseeds.mb.ca

*****LOCAL*** Prairie Garden Seeds** (vegetables, flowers, grain seed), Humboldt, Saskatchewan, www.prseeds.ca

Richter's Herbs (vast selection of herb seed and books), Goodwood, Ontario, www.Richters.com

Stokes Seeds Ltd. (vegetables, flowers), Thorold, Ontario, www.stokeseeds.com

Seeds of Diversity, Canada's Heritage Seed Program for Gardeners, Website includes a Canadian Seed Catalogue inventory for heritage seed companies, www.seeds.ca

T & T Seeds (vegetables, flowers, trees, shrubs, perennials for the Prairies), Winnipeg, Manitoba, www.ttseeds.com

Thompson & Morgan (unique and unusual flower and vegetable seed), Oakville, Ontario, www.thompson-morgan.ca

West Coast Seeds (organic, heirloom, unique vegetable seed, flowers, great selection of Asian vegetables), Delta, BC, www.westcoastseeds.com

W. H. Perron Dominion Seedhouse (vegetables, flowers, trees, shrubs), Georgetown, Ontario, www.dominion-seed-house.com/en/

William Dam Seeds (untreated vegetable and flower seed), Dundas, Ontario, www.damseeds.com

Vesey's Seeds Ltd. (vegetables, flowers), Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, www.veseys.com

EVENTS

What you need to know to plan your week.
Send events to bridges@thestarphoenix.com

MUSIC

Wed., Jan. 21

17 Seconds of Fual
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Jazz Jam: Tha Brett Balon Trio
The Bassment,
2D4 Fourth Ave. N.

Silverstein w/ Beartooth, Hands Like Houses, Major League and My Iron Lung
O'Brians Event Centre,
241 Second Ave. S.

Thurs., Jan. 22

Undercover Pirates
Crackers Restaurant & Lounge,
1-227 Pinehouse Dr.

Soul Picnic
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Madchild from Swollen Members w/ Demrick
Capitol Music Club,
244 First Ave. N.

Fri., Jan. 23

Penny Reign
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Piano Friday: Maurice Drouin
Blues Series: The Jack Sample Band
The Bassment,
2D4 Fourth Ave. N.

Stetson
Army & Navy Club,
359 First Ave. N.

The Standards Trio
McNally Robinson,
313D Eighth St. E.

Aaron & The Moonshiners
Toon Town Tavern,
333D Fairlight Dr.

Leon Dobs

The Jack Sample Band will be performing a Blues Series at The Bassment on Friday. BRIDGES FILE PHOTO BY GORD WALDNER

Fairfield Senior Citizens' Centre,
1D3 Fairmont Ct.

Firing at the Sky w/ Ma the Guts and Autopilot
Vangelis Tavern,
8D1 Broadway Ave.

SWITCH Benefit Show: The Spencer Vaughn Band
Amigos Cantina,
8D6 Dufferin Ave.

DJ Weatherboy
Capitol Music Club,
244 First Ave. N.

Rez Boyz
Stan's Place,
1D6-11D Ruth St. E.

3 Canadians
Piggy's Pub and Grill,
14D3 Idylwyld Dr. N.

Saskatoon's Legendary Rhythm & Blues Revue
Somewhere Else Pub & Grill,
26D5 Broadway Ave.

Sat., Jan. 24

Seven Strait
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Piano Saturdays: Maurice Drouin and Neil Currie alternating

Jazz Travelers Series: David Braid w/ Michael Davidson & Peripheral Vision
The Bassment,
2D4 Fourth Ave. N.

Stetson
Army & Navy Club,
359 First Ave. N.

Phoenix
Downtown Legion,
6D6 Spadina Cres. W.

Harry Startup
Nutana Legion,
3D21 Louise St.

Scott Richmond
McNally Robinson,
313D Eighth St. E.

Apollo Cruz
Bon Temps Café,
223 Second Ave. S.

Acronyms w/ Mario Lepage
Amigos Cantina,
8D6 Dufferin Ave.

Rez Boyz
Stan's Place,
1D6-11D Ruth St. E.

3 Canadians
Piggy's Pub and Grill,
14D3 Idylwyld Dr. N.

John Antoniuk
Bugsy's Bar & Grill,
134 Primrose Dr.

Things We Never Did
Vangelis Tavern,
8D1 Broadway Ave.

Condition One w/ Paul Kuzbik
Capitol Music Club,
244 First Ave. N.

Saskatoon's Legendary Rhythm & Blues Revue
Somewhere Else Pub & Grill,
26D5 Broadway Ave.

Sun., Jan. 25

Acoustic Jam: Dick MacInnis
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Popcaan & Chromatic Sound
Louis' Pub,
93 Campus Dr.

Kingdom of Giants, Phinehas and Affiance
Rock Bottom,
834B Broadway Ave.

Mon., Jan. 26

Rock 1D2 Jingle Ball Rock: Death From Above 1979 w/ METZ
O'Brians Event Centre,
241 Second Ave. S.

Tues., Jan. 27

Flathead
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Outlaws & Outsiders: Aaron Pritchett w/ Cory Marquardt and King & Cash
O'Brians Event Centre
241 Second Ave. S.

Buckcherry w/ The Wild and Age of Days
Outlaws Country Rock Bar,
71D Idylwyld Dr.

ART

Mendel Art Gallery
At 95D Spadina Cres. E.
New winter exhibitions include Battleground: War Rugs from Afghanistan; Deep Weather by Swiss artist Ursula Biemann; Concerning Certain Events, recent works by Saskatchewan artists Tammi Campbell and Kara Uzelman; the Border Crossings Study Centre, a mobile archive of the 34-year history of Border Crossings art magazine; and the RBC Artists by Artists mentorship program, reflecting Monique Martin's mentorship with Cathryn Miller, U of S scholar Maurice Labelle and former war artist Adrian Stimson talk about Afghanistan from two different perspectives Jan. 24, 1 p.m. Sultan Ali Sadat of the Open Door Society talks about his experiences making battle rugs as a youth in Afghanistan Jan. 25, 2 p.m.

The Gallery at Frances Morrison Central Library
Jan. 21 until Feb. 26 at 311 23rd St. E. Hair Story by the Local History Department (SPL). A tonsorial tour in photographs of Saskatoon's early barber shops and beauty parlours. Reception Feb. 11, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

EVENTS

What you need to know to plan your week.
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SCYAP Art Gallery
Until Jan. 23 at 253 Third Ave. S. Artist and Model by The Saturday morning drawing class. A show of figure drawings and paintings done directly from the model. Reception Jan. 22, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. MetroMamalla by Kevin Wesaquate. Jan. 26 until Feb. 13. Native animals sited in urban settings. Reception Jan. 30, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Void Gallery
Until Jan. 31 at 2-1006 Eighth St. E. Triforce. New works by the collective, featuring Saskatoon artists Tyson Atkings, Joe Todarian and Luke Warman. Reception Jan. 22, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

AKA Artist Run
Jan. 23 until Feb. 28 at 424 20th St. W. Untitled (new visions) by Maggie Groat and Barbara Hobot. Artist talk at Gordon Snaigrove Gallery Jan. 22, 12 p.m. Opening reception Jan. 23, 8 p.m.

Pavad Arts
Jan. 23 until Feb. 27 at 424 20th St. W. Good Dog Bad Dog by Ed Janzen. Opening reception Jan. 23, 8 p.m. Artist talk Jan. 24, 2 p.m., in the second floor event space. Compound Theory 2a by Terry Billings runs Jan. 23 to Feb. 6.

Gallery on Third, Watrous
Until Jan. 23 at 102 Third Ave. E., Watrous. Heavy Metal, an OSAC Touring Show.

Humboldt and District Museum and Gallery
Until Jan. 23 at 601 Main St., in Humboldt. Surreal Saskatchewan, an OSAC Arts on the Move exhibit. Contrast, a Local Perspective exhibit by the Saskatoon Potter's Guild, runs until March 27.

Smudges & Stains Art Show and Sale
Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m., at 320 22nd St. E. A collective art show and sale with Janna Mann, Shannon Heather and Rachael C. Meckling. Featuring music by DJ Charlie Hustle and The Coff. Tickets at picatic.com

carb o-rater by the collective Triforce is on display at Void Gallery

Station Arts Centre, Rosthern
Until Jan. 24 at 701 Railway Ave. In Rosthern. Repetition. An OSAC touring exhibit. Featuring the works of 18 artists from three Saskatchewan printmaking collectives. Our neck of the Woods, Jan. 27 until Feb. 28. Tiny watercolours by B.A. Conly and photographs by Ray Griffin. Meet-the-Artists reception Feb. 21, 2:30 p.m.

Biggar Museum & Gallery
Until Jan. 29 in Biggar. Agri-Culture from the First Nations University. The history of First Nations agriculture.

Funky Petals
Until Jan. 31 at 212 Third Ave. S. A collection of framed photographic artworks by Sharon Ceslak.

Ukrainian Museum of Canada
Until Jan. 31 at 910 Spadina Cres. E. Dreaming in Ukrainian. Travel photography by Andrea Kopylech and Karen Pidskalny.

Hues Art Supplies
Until Jan. 31 at 1818 Lorne Ave. Artwork by Big Sky Artists.

Art in the Centre
Through January at Parkridge Centre, 110 Gropper Cres. Work by Different Strokes art group.

Watrous Library
Through January in Watrous. Tree Art by Tammarah.

Green Ark Collected Home
Until Feb. 2 at 212 20th St. W. Works by Geoffrey Wooller.

The Gallery/Art Placement
Until Feb. 5 at 228 Third Ave. S. Winter Group Exhibition. Works by several gallery artists, including Louisa Cook, Heather Cline, Alicia Popoff and Pat Service.

Eye Gallery
Until Feb. 13 at 117-1132 College Dr. Close to Home. Photographs by Jannik Plaetner.

Affinity Gallery
Until Feb. 21 at 813 Broadway Ave. Our Prairie in Fibre. A collection of fibre art from women across Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

STM Gallery
Until Feb. 28 at St. Thomas More College, 1437 College Dr. imPRESS by University of Saskatchewan Intermediate Printmaking Students.

Linked: Colony Collapse
Until Feb. 28 along the riverbank from the Meewasin Valley Centre to the Mendel Art Gallery. An installation in the trees. By Monique Martin with support from Sask Terra members.

Saskatoon City Hospital Gallery on the Bridges
Until Feb. 28 on the sixth floor of the Atrium at Saskatoon City Hospital. Watercolour Landscapes by Patricia L. Clarke and contemporary textured acrylic paintings by Marlene Hamel. New Directions runs through February. Recent acrylic paintings by Michael J. Martin.

Western Development Museum
Through April 2015 at 2610 Lorne Ave. Big Bert Travelling Exhibit. In partnership with the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. A 92 million-year-old crocodile skeleton brought back to life through 3D imaging.

FAMILY

Stay and Play
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., through April. For children up to age five. Semi-structured, crafts, snacks, story time, toys, activities. Email stayandplaysaskatoon@gmail.com or visit the Facebook page.

LLLC Saskatoon Daytime Series Meeting
The third Wednesday of the month through April, 9:30 a.m., at Emmanuel Anglican Church, 609 Dufferin Ave. All women interested in breastfeeding are welcome. Call 306-655-4805 or email lllcsaskatoon@gmail.com.

Stars and Strollers
Wednesdays, 1 p.m., at Centre Cinemas in The Centre. Choice of two movies each week. A baby-friendly environment with lowered volume, dimmed lighting, a changing table and stroller parking in select theatres.

Saskatoon Strong Mom & Baby Fitness
Wednesdays until April 8, 2 p.m. A mom and baby indoor exercise class. All fitness levels are welcome. Registration and information at saskatoonstrongmoms@gmail.com or fb.com/SaskatoonStrongMoms.

EVENTS

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CJ's Climb and Play
Daily, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., in Bay 4 of 619 South Railway St. W. in Warman. Saskatchewan's newest indoor playground. For children up to age 12. Visit cjsclimbandplay.com or their Facebook page.

Fun Factory Indoor Playground
Daily at 1633C Quebec Ave. A giant indoor playground for young children. Adults and children under one year are free. There is a separate fenced in area for children under two.

Children's Play Centre
Daily at Lawson Heights Mall. A fun, safe, environment for preschool children to play. Please note this is an unsupervised play area, and adults must stay with and supervise children at all times.

Market Mall Children's Play Centre
Daily just off the food court at Market Mall. This play area is free and has different level slides. Children must wear socks in the play area.

Scooters Indoor Playgroup
Thursdays, 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., through May, at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1636 Acadia Dr. Parent-supervised playgroup for kids up to age five. A bounce house and toys for kids, designated infant play area, coffee/tea for parents. Registration on arrival. Information at scooters@abap.ca or their Facebook page.

Breastfeeding Cafe
Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at Westwinds Primary Health Centre, 3311 Fairlight Dr. A drop-in support group for breastfeeding women. Sessions will be facilitated by a lactation consultant with a brief educational presentation, and time for interaction with the other mothers.

Movies for Mommies
Thursdays, 1 p.m., at Rainbow Cinemas in The Centre. An infant-friendly environment with reduced sound, change tables, bottle warming and stroller parking.

Shop 'n Stroll
Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., meet in front of Customer Service at The Mall at Lawson Heights. Classes consist of power-walking, body-sculpting moves using exercise tubing and a socializing for parents and babies. Preregister at runnersandbootiesfitness.com. No classes on stat holidays.

Baby Talk at SPL
Fridays, 10:30 a.m., at Alice Turner Branch; Mondays, 10:30 a.m., at Carlyle King Branch and JS Wood Branch, and Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., at Cliff Wright Branch. Half-hour singing and rhymes, then mingle with other parents.

Free Family Fun
Sundays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the Mendel Art Gallery, 950 Spadina Cres. E. For ages four to 12, accompanied by an adult. Art-making activities led by gallery artists. Supplies are provided. Jan. 25, Paper Weaving: use colourful papers to weave a piece of art.

Postnatal Yoga
Mondays, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., at Pregnancy and Parenting Health Centre, 248 Third Ave. S. Beginner to intermediate yoga designed to help with postpartum recovery. Baby friendly class with a certified yoga teacher. Suitable for four weeks to two years postpartum. Register at msjpriestley.wix.com/pureenergy. No class on stat holidays.

Canadian Light Source (CLS) Public Tours
Mondays, 1:30 p.m., at the Canadian Light Source, 44 Innovation Blvd. The synchrotron research facility is open for the public. Preregistration is required. Call 306-657-3644, email outreach@lightsource.ca or visit lightsource.ca/education/public_tours.php.

Prenatal Yoga
Mondays, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., at Pregnancy and Parenting Health Centre, 248 Third Ave. S. Taught by a doula and certified yoga teacher. Informative and safe for any stage in pregnancy. Call 306-251-0443 or email msjpriestley@gmail.com. No class on stat holidays.

Playgroup
Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at Grace-Westminster United Church. Hosted by Prairie Hearts Learning Community, a group of families inspired by Waldorf philosophies. Programming is aimed at children ages two to five but all ages are welcome.

Former U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton will be in Saskatoon to give a talk tonight, 7 p.m., at TCU Place. GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO

Preschool Story Time
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., at McNally Robinson, 3130 Eighth St. E. For children ages three to five in the Circle of Trees. Call 306-955-1477.

Engineering for Kids
Children ages four to 14 can learn about technology and how engineers help it develop. Classes, camps, parties, and clubs with hands-on STEM enrichment activities. Get information and register at engineeringforkids.net/saskatoon or 306-978-4186.

Saskatoon Public Library Programs
Ongoing daily programs for children and families. Find the calendar at saskatoonlibrary.ca/node/1016.

BRICKS 4 KIDZ® Saskatoon
Regular after-school programs, preschool classes and camps for kids of all ages at various locations in Saskatoon. An atmosphere for students to build unique creations, play games, and have fun using LEGO® bricks. Visit bricks4kidz.com or call 306-979-2749.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saskatoon Farmers' Market
Open year round. Wednesday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., farmers are in attendance. Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday during market hours, food service and specialty shops are open. Information at saskatoonfarmersmarket.com. Contact 306-384-6262, skfarm@sasktel.net.

Mayfair Carpet Bowling
Wednesdays, 1:15 p.m., at Mayfair United Church. Beginners and experienced players are welcome. For information call 306-651-2151.

Hillary Rodham Clinton
Jan. 21, 7 p.m., at TCU Place. Presented by Global Perspectives. A conversation with the former US Secretary of State. Tickets at 306-975-7799, tcutickets.ca.

English for Employment Class
Hosted by the Saskatoon Open Door Society. Improve English pronunciation and communication, and learn what you need to find work in Saskatoon. Information or registration at 306-250-4337, 306-653-4464, 306-250-4338, jhaugen@sods.sk.ca, ajunak@sods.sk.ca.

Soup Sisters and Broth Brothers
Jan. 22, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., at SIAST, 1130 Idylwyld Dr. N. An evening of cooking, eating and giving. Local chefs prepare a meal for participants, and assist participants in making about 250 bowls of soup for women and children escaping family violence. Preregistration is required. To register and see more dates visit soupsisters.org.

SIFC Dances
Thursdays, 7 p.m., in room 13 at Albert Community Centre, 610 Clarence Ave. S. Saskatoon International Folkdance Club. Learn dances from many countries around the world. First night is free. Visit sifc.awardspace.com.

Dr. Sketchy Under the Sea
Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m., at Free Flow Dance Centre, 224 25th St. W. An evening of drawing and drinks under the sea. Starring Rosebud Burlesque Club's Mona Handful. With concession, contest and prizes, and music. Bring sketch pad and pencils. For ages 19+. Admission at the door.

EVENTS

Literature Matters Talk
Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m., at Grace-Westminster United Church, 505 10th St. E. Martian Christianity: Religion and Science Fiction by Professor Peter Hynes.

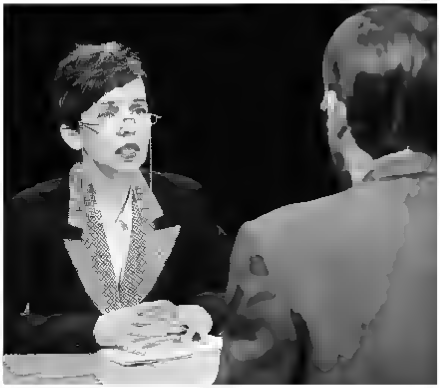
Northern Lights
Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m., at TCU Place. Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra's Masters Series. Featuring violinist Marc Bouchkov. With works by Estecio, Tchaikovsky and Sibelius. Tickets at 306-975-7795, tcutickets.ca.

Old Time Dance
Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m., at St. Joe's Parish Hall. Hosted by Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Tyme Music Society. Celebrating the Shivering Strings Music Camp. Featuring music by Gordon Stobbe, Karrnnel, Kim de Laforest, JJ Guy, Eric Wright, Stacey Read, Lucas Welsh, Daniel Koulack and Cathy Sproule. With a late night lunch. Admission at the door.

WinterShines Festival
Jan. 24 to Feb. 1 at Market Square and River Landing. Ice and snow carving, ice park for kids, Canada Games flag pep rally, Soup Cook-Off, pony rides, sleigh rides, winter cuisine and local entertainment. With a skating party at Meewasin Rink Jan. 25.

Sixth Annual Saskatoon Chefs' Association Gala and Showcase
Feb. 7 at Prairieland Park. An evening of food and entertainment. Raising funds and awareness for local non-profit organizations. Tickets at picatic.com. Deadline is Jan. 24.

Dance Class Registration
Jan. 25, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., at Free Flow Dance Centre, 224 25th St. W. Register for the 2015 session of dance classes at the Free Flow Dance Centre. Specializing in adult dance classes ranging from beginner to advanced. Schedule of classes at freeflowdance.com/divtraining-job.php.


Charlie Peters and Jamie Lee Shebelski in The Clockmaker which runs until Sunday at The Refinery. BRIDGES PHOTO BY RICHARD MARJAN

Tonight It's Poetry
Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m., at The Woods Ale House, 148 Second Ave. N. Poetry Slam featuring Mona Moussa.

Off-Broadway Farmers' Market, International Bazaar, and Bistro
Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., in the basement of Grace-Westminster United Church, 505 10th St. E. Offering a variety of locally produced food, clothing and accessories from India, pet products, baking, and bistro dishes. New vendors welcome. Call 306-664-2940 or email gerald.j.harrison@shaw.ca.

MFA Lecture Series
Jan. 27, 12 p.m., at Gordon Snelgrove Gallery, Room 191 U of S Murray Building, Xalo Han, 1989.

Cakes in the City
Jan. 27, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., at the Saskatoon Farmers' Market. A fundraising Cake Walk in support of Cheshire Homes and L'Arche. Bakers are invited to design and present a cake using the theme winter sparkles. With people's choice awards, a jury, a displayed bio for each baker, and a slab cake tasting. Information at janderson@sasktel.net, 306-931-6882.

Cued Old Time Dancing
Second and fourth Tuesday of the month, through April, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., at Grace-Westminster United Church, 505 10th St. E. Hosted by Saskatoon Pattern Dance Club. Easier dances for the first hour. Call 306-374-9383 or 306-382-5107.

Comedy Night
Jan. 27, 9 p.m., at Piggy's Pub and Grill, 1403 Idylwyld Dr. N. With Dez Reed.

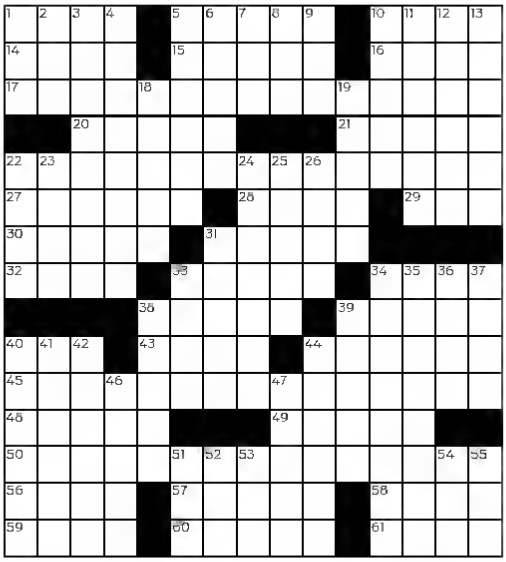
THEATRE

The Clockmaker
Until Jan. 25 at The Refinery. Presented by Live Five. Produced by Neverending Highway Productions/Embrace Theatre. "Who are you?" is the question. Heinrich's answer places him at the centre of a mystery, with his own future hanging in the balance. Is it possible to be guilty of being about to commit a crime? Tickets at 306-653-5191, ontheboards.ca.

Event listings are a free community service offered by Bridges. Listings will be printed if space permits. Submission deadline is two weeks before the event date.

CROSSWORD

NEW YORK TIMES *Edited by Will Shortz*



ACROSS

1 Homey
5 Talks like a tosspot
10 Corp. money execs
14 Subject of a court bargain
15 Spicy Eastern cuisine
16 "Nuts" director Martin
17 Hyperbole for an arduous task
20 "Two-L" beast
21 Writer ___ Rogers St. Johns
22 Oxymoron for cautious travel
27 Classic time to duel
28 Earn as profit
29 Maritime alert
30 R've Gauche's river
31 Nada
32 Squash units
33 Pesky arachnids
34 Parks in 1955 news
36 Wired
39 Jiggly treat
40 Ending for a 10-Down
43 Flavoring for a French cordial
44 "Body Heat" director Lawrence
45 Litotes for beauty
48 Intentionally mislead
49 Like MGM's lion
50 Simile for denseness
56 Leakes of reality TV
57 Play the siren
58 Hairy son of Isaac
59 Sweetie
60 Cheese choice
61 Exclamation that's a homophone of 53-Down

DOWN

1 Printer resolution fig.
2 Plot's abbr.
3 Tightly interlocked
4 Many Spanish Armada ships
5 Tribal healer
6 "Last Days" actor Haas
7 Article in Le Monde
8 Prince William's mil. branch
9 ___ Caps (movie theater candy)
10 Literally "I believe"
11 Reporter's questions collectively
12 Opera with "Ave Maria"
13 Many pound dogs
16 Lake near Reno
15 Alice's sitcom husband
22 Part of W.M.O.
23 Precisely after "to"
24 Least fresh
28 Angler with pots
26 Some bunts, for short
31 "Hush!"
33 Avian mimic
34 Place to stop and text perhaps
35 Ancestor of Scottish Gaelic and Manx
36 Many a Balkan native
37 Top-notch
38 Red River delta capital
39 Ebenezer's ghostly ex-partner
40 Far from shore
41 "Got it"
42 Eur. erupter
44 Gold standards
46 King Arthur's father ___ Pendragon
47 Talks like Don Corleone
51 Number after a decimal: Abbr.
52 London's ___ Gardens
53 French friend
54 Ending with nanny or spy
55 Scrabble 10-pointer spelled out

PUZZLE BY STU OCKMAN

JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Level: Bronze

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

				3			1	2
				1		3		4
5	3		2		4		6	
8		5	1			9		
	2		6	5	8		3	
		3			9	4		8
	6		9		5		4	3
4		2		7				
3	5			6				

Solution to the crossword puzzle and the Sudoku can be found on Page 19

OUTSIDE THE LINES

Colouring contest

Each week Stephanie McKay creates a timely illustration meant to please kids of all ages.

Children can colour the page, have a picture taken with the finished product and email it to bridges@thestarphoenix.com. One winner will be chosen each week. Please send entries by Monday at 9 a.m.

Last week's contest winner is Kenley Neufeldt. Thanks to everyone who submitted entries!

WINE WORLD

SASKATCHEWAN WINE SCENE

Time to raise a glass of scotch to Robbie Burns

By James Romanow

Nae man can tether time or tide
— Robbie Burns

As usual, the Ploughman Poet Is right We are approaching his 256th birthday.

If you haven't noticed Burns is a poet who inspires an extraordinary amount of adulation As far as I know there aren't any "Keats nights" celebrated in Canada Mind you Keats only wrote odes to pots and what not Burns had the great good sense to rejoice in women, food and drink But there will be a number of celebrations throughout the province of his birth — his birthday is Jan 25 — between here and February Yard & Flagon celebrations have become so popular they are holding it on two nights, the 21st and 22nd A $25 ticket gets you in for the whole night, including a meal

Part of the reason for Burns' enduring popularity is his love of scotch and haggis (And before you sniff at haggis it's a sausage, and I don't know about you but I've never met one I didn't like) If you can't make it down to the various celebrations lift a glass to Burns this weekend

A good place to start is Laphroaig Quarter Cask It's a cask strength whisky (48 per cent) that has gone through two barreling regimes to

mellow and tame it

Laphroaig is a fairly extreme set of flavours, beloved by peat addicts Quarter Cask keeps Laphroaig's seaborne aromas of smoke and iodine, but the palate is a little tamer than some of the Laphroaig portfolio It still has that famed peat but it is more approachable If you're new to single malts or just looking to branch out this is a good place to start.

Laphroaig Quarter Cask $70 ****

More wine in Monday s paper and as always on Twitter @drbooze

Crossword/Sudoku answers

D	A	W	G		S	L	U	R	S		C	F	O	S
P	L	E	A		H	U	N	A	N		R	I	T	T
I	T	L	L	T	A	K	E	F	O	R	E	V	E	R
		L	L	A	M	A				A	D	E	L	A
M	A	K	E	H	A	S	T	E	S	L	O	W	L	Y
A	T	N	O	O	N		R	E	A	P		S	O	S
S	E	I	N	E		Z	I	L	C	H				
S	E	T	S		M	I	T	E	S		R	O	S	A
				H	Y	P	E	R		J	E	L	L	O
I	S	M		A	N	I	S		K	A	S	D	A	N
N	O	T	U	N	A	T	T	R	A	C	T	I	V	E
L	I	E	T	O				A	R	O	A	R		
A	S	T	H	I	C	K	A	S	A	B	R	I	C	K
N	E	N	E		T	E	M	P	T		E	S	A	U
D	E	A	R		S	W	I	S	S		A	H	M	E

7	4	9	8	3	6	5	1	2
2	8	6	5	1	7	3	9	4
5	3	1	2	9	4	8	6	7
8	7	5	1	4	3	9	2	6
9	2	4	6	5	8	7	3	1
6	1	3	7	2	9	4	5	8
1	6	7	9	8	5	2	4	3
4	9	2	3	7	1	6	8	5
3	5	8	4	6	2	1	7	9